Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044794 ORIGIN EB-08

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DRAFTED BY EB/TEX:JJST. JOHN/STR:MBSMITH APPROVED BY EB/TEX - J ST. JOHN COMMERCE - RSHEPHERD(INFO) LABOR - HBLACKMAN (INFO) EA/J - DBROWN (SUBS)

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O P 212312Z FEB 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: TEXTILES - RENEGOTIATION OF US/JAPAN BILATERAL AGREEMENT

1. TANABE OF JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS INFORMED US THAT JAPANESE DELEGATION TO NEGOTIATIONS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD MARCH 2-10 IN HONOLULU WILL CONSIST OF ONLY 3 PERSONS. WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT DESIGNATION OF SUCH A SMALL DELEGATION INDICATES THAT GOJ IS NOT REPEAT NOT PREPARED TO CONDUCT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT IN HONOLULU. NEGOTIATONS FOR BILATERAL AGREEMENT USUALLY REQUIRES SEVERAL HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS AS WELL AS TECHNICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPECIALISTS. IN PAST, GOJ HAS USUALLY FOUND IT
NECESSARY TO FIELD A DELEGATION SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER
THAN THAT OF USG. US DELEGATION NEEDS TO KNOW ASAP
GOJ INTENTIONS RE NEGOTIATIONS IN HONOLULU BECAUSE
USG PRESENTLY PLANS TO SEND FULL DELEGATION PLUS
SEVERAL LABOR AND INDUSTRY ADVISORS. PLEASE EXPLORE
GOJ'S INTENTIONS RE NEGOTIATIONS AND REPORT EMBASSY'S

CONCLUSIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. EMBASSY MAY WANT TO GIVE GOJ US DELEGATION LIST AS MEANS OF APPROACH TO EXPLORE GOU'S INTENTIONS RE

NEGOTIATIONS. US DELEGATION INCLUDES MICHAEL B. SMITH, (MINISTER, CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR, STR), JOHN J. ST. JOHN (CHIEF, TEXTILES DIVISION, STATE), ROBERT SHEPHERD (DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR RESOURCES AND TRADE ASSISTANCE, COMMERCE), ARTHUR GAREL (DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TEXTILES, COMMERCE), HERBERT BLACKMAN (ASSOCIATE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, LABOR), IRVING KRAMER (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY, LABOR).

- 3. FOLLOWING UP SAKAI/SMITH TELCON FEBRUARY 14, PLEASE INFORM SAKI THAT SMITH WILL BE IN HONOLULU FROM FEBRUARY 27 AND THAT HE WOULD LIKE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH SAKAI PRIVATELY ON EITHER MARCH 1 (WHEN SAKAI ARRIVES) OR MARCH 2, BUT, IN ANY CASE, BEFORE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN.
- 4. US TEXTILE DELEGATION AND ADVISORS WILL BE STAYING AT ALA MOANA HOTEL, TELEPHONE NUMBER 955-4811. WOULD APPRECIATE HOTEL INFORMATION RE GOJ DELEGATION. VANCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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